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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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## INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Air Force Combat Regiment at Kecskemet

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1. The first combat regiment of the Hungarian Air Force was organized at Kecskemet Field as unit 4.253 of the Hungarian Army-Kecskemet. Major Toth, an aviator, was appointed the commander of this regiment. At the end of the war he was a staff sergeant in the army, but joined the Communist Party, and by 1946 he was well on his way to a meteoric career in the new army. He was appointed a professor at the Kossuth Academy, a training school for officers, and today he is commander-in-chief, assisted by two aides, 1st Lt. Szekelyhidy and 2nd Lt. Balogh. To curtail his power to some extent an even more powerful commissar in the person of Lt. Mezei, was appointed to oversee his activities.
2. The regiment at Kecskemet has an operational base command under Major Eivador Geller, a well-trained expert of the old school, who was an officer during the war. His aide is Lt. Lajos Baro.
3. There is also a secret office headed by Lt. Geza Kajozar, which handles and analyzes the secret and confidential records for the Soviets and the Hungarians.
4. A Lt. Pinter is in command of the counter-espionage section of the regiment; his aide is Sgt. Sos. If there are no spy cases, they manufacture as many as necessary.
5. The regiment at Kecskemet is divided into two parts, one of which commands the two pursuit companies, and the other the two combat companies. The commander of the first pursuit company is Lt. Lajos Toth, who formerly was attached to the training company at the flying field at Matyasfold. The commander of the second pursuit company is Lt. Szentivanyi. The first combat company is commanded by Lt. Bela Csapo; the second by Lt. Dombrady.
6. The total personnel is about 1600 men, approximately half of them belonging to the ground forces service crews.
7. Attached to the regiment at Kecskemet is a retraining course, a type of refresher in flying tactics, an RMZ company and a transport company. <sup>Translator's note:</sup> In the text the initials RMZ indicate a service company consisting of mechanics and technicians.

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8. The retraining course is headed by Major Mihalyfy, who is the brother of one of the greatest betrayers of the Hungarian people, Minister Erno Mihalyfy, who directs Russo-Hungarian cultural ties, and who is directly responsible for Tildy's downfall. The military career of this member of the Mihalyfy dynasty is noteworthy since it is due solely to the pressure exerted by the "great Erno". The Major himself could not rise above the rank of corporal during the war. He served in a training center at Ujvidek flying field. He was dismissed from his duties at Ujvidek flying field, but in order to give him something to do he was given a job as a gardener at headquarters.
9. The second in command of the retraining program is Lt. Sandor Boroczky with a similar Communist career. He differs from Mihalyfy only in the fact that he has no ministerial connections. He got into the Proletariat Army as a trained locksmith and mechanic, then, after a few propaganda trips to the villages and speeches supporting the Party, he was accepted as a professional soldier, an aviation sergeant. From here on his career soared.
10. The training crews consist of two officers, and six non-commissioned men. The leader of the group is Lt. Lasszak. This training group at Kecskemet was the first group in Hungary which was trained in civilian capacities on the Masovlet Russian-Hungarian civil air lines to handle the Yak 9 and the IL-10 military planes. The training was carried on at Budaors flying field. There is a retraining course for mechanics which deals with repairs on the propellers, aerial guns, compasses, fuselages and radios. The group stationed here is equipped to handle the above repairs, but major repairs are still carried out at Matyasfold.
11. The RKZ group is a very important group. This company is responsible for carrying on technical and mechanical repairs to insure smooth functioning of the planes attached to the regiment, and as such is a most important unit of the combat flying regiment. Lt. Gyula Damniczky heads this unit. He was formerly a staff sergeant. He is an expert particularly on questions involving anti-aircraft weapons and bombs. His aide is Lt. Gyula Szabo.
12. Several technical groups are attached to the various battalions. In charge of materials is Lt. Tibor Tatay. The mechanics company is under the command of Lt. Istvan Simon; the weapons-mounting shop is under Lt. Borocky, the technical office under Staff Sgt. Gyula Gelencser. The meteorological section, the technical section, the parts group, the radio section, electricians' group, the technical library, the weapons repair and storage sections and publicity headquarters are all stationed here. Civilians are employed here in addition to the military personnel, approximately 3-5 with each group mentioned.
13. There is not much to be said about the transport group. Five sergeants and about 60 men are stationed with this company. Their equipment consists of about 40 Soviet and Hungarian trucks, a few gasoline tank trucks, and a few radio autos.
14. So far no Soviet officers have been noticed at Kecskemet Field.

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